

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY, INDIANA, HELD ITS REGULAR MEETING ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2006 IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE CITY-COUNTY BUILDING.

PRESENT: Anthony B. Toran, President, Steve LaDuke, Chas Hunter, Police Chief Merle Harl, Traffic Division Supervisor Officer Joe Lewis, Code Enforcement Officer Pam Badger, Deputy Fire Chief Stanley Mason, City Clerk Marcey Wisman, Street Department Director Joddie Johnson, Flood Control Director Ron Granger, Building commissioner Paul Roberts, Controller Kay Garry, Sewer Billing director Kelly Welsh, and Animal Shelter Director David Hall.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Toran called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

NEW BUSINESS:

Item #1 - Gary Polsgrove, Skysign re: sign for Joy's Coffee Nook.

Mr. Polsgrove requested a sign permit at Joy's Coffee Nook, he presented pictures of the proposed sign to the Board.

Mr. Hunter moved to approve the sign, Mr. LaDuke second, all voted in favor.

Item #2 - Tony Toran re: FOP Road Block for Easter Seals

Mr. Toran announced that the FOP have requested a road block on April 7 and 8 with a rain date of April 14 and 15.

Mr. LaDuke moved to approve, Mr. Hunter second, all voted in favor.

Item #3 - Steve Shetter re: Banner request for Hospice Bar-B-Q Ball

Mr. Shetter requested a banner to be hung on Spring from April 3 to May 1 for the Hospice Bar-B-Q Ball.

Mr. LaDuke moved to approve, Mr. Hunter second, all voted in favor.

Mr. Johnson stated that the banners need to have half moons cut into them so that the wind can go through them otherwise the tear.

Mr. Shetter stated that he would make sure to have that done.

Item #4 - Vicki Craig, American Cancer Society re: Road Block for May 13

Ms. Wisman stated that the American Cancer Society would like to have a road block at Spring and Silver on May 13.

Mr. LaDuke moved to approve, Mr. Hunter second, all voted in favor.

Item #5 - Adam Sprecher, 948-9717 re: Conservative Street

Mr. Sprecher addressed the board and presented a list of discussion Topics regarding Conservative Street. He stated that 1818 is much better and the landlord is putting pressure on the tenants to keep the area clean. He stated that the neighbors were happy that the house at 1817 was boarded up but he was wondering where it stands as far as the demolition and the clean

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up of the yard of this house.

Mr. Toran stated that he know that Mr. Roberts is working on this issue but he is not sure were it stands.

Mr. Sprecher passed out a drawing for a plan he has to plant trees along Glenmill Road and I-265. He reported that he has applied for a permit from the State to plant these trees since it is their property and he wanted to keep the board informed of his progress.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item #1 - Chas Hunter re: Drainage problems on Martin Drive.

Mr. Hunter stated that he has looked in to and that there are individuals here to discuss it later on the agenda,

COMMUNICATIONS - CITY OFFICIALS:

Deputy Mason reported that Joel Baylor and Brad Collier has completed their one year probationary period and he requested that they be promoted to Sergeant.

Mr. Hunter moved to approve, Mr. LaDuke second, all voted in favor.

David Hall up-dated the board on the shelter. He stated that they have expanded their adoption hours on Mondays for adoptions. He reported on Angela and stated that all 13 of her puppies have been adopted out but Angel is still with them. He reported that they would be on Wave3 the next day as the featured shelter. He informed the board that the obedience classes have been a real success and that they have had 21 individuals through their classes. He reported that they have lost an employee who can not make it on the \$6.75 per hour and he asked that the members of board to advocate for his employees to have their salaries raised. He informed the board that they had received a donation from Holy Family School help in the amount of \$1,201.27 that had been raised.

Dan Coffey addressed the board regarding the drainage problem on Martin Drive. He stated that he has talked with Mr. Hanson from the hospital and they are having an engineer to look at the problem. He stated that a fence is not going to be enough to block the hospital. He said that the individual's property needs to be built back up, and the ditch needs to be made to meander rather than being a straight shot to slow the water and the erosion. He asked if money from Flood Control could be used to repair this issue.

Mr. Hunter responded to Mr. Coffey by informing him that there is an ordinance that states the Flood Control can look into these issues and decide whether or not they can be paid for out of their funds. He stated that he would present this to the Flood Control.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding whose responsibility it is to care for and pay for the repairs needed and who needs to do them.

Mr. Coffey stated that they also need to contact Cinergy because they are the ones that put the gravel road along the creek.

Mr. Johnson stated that he will be on vacation next week and Gary Becht will be taking his place.

Mrs. Welsh reported that they have taken over the Silver Creek Billing in house and it is going very well.

Mr. Schmidt reported he had received complaints that there were no signs on the Grantline end of Mt. Tabor there are no signs indicating that the road is closed for the repairs on the railroad.

Mr. LaDuke informed him that there are signs there.

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COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:

Margaret Schroeder and Denise Bush, addressed the board regarding the drainage problem on Martin Drive and presented more pictures that show the problems that they are having with the erosion.

Mr. LaDuke asked if this problem has been going on just since the hospital expansion or before.

Mrs. Schroeder stated that it has been going on since the expansion.

Mr. Hunter asked about the North side of the creek and whether the problems there have been on going or just since the expansion.

Mrs. Schroeder stated that the north side of the creek had previous erosion.

Mrs. Bush presented pictures of her view of the hospital since the expansion and before the expansion. She explained the history that she has with trying to work with the hospital.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the problems they are having and the individuals they have been contacting to correct this problem.

William Troncill, Maury Goldberg, Roger Baylor, came to ask for an up-date on 1018 E. Elm.

Mrs. Badger reported that they have cleaned the yard and installed the smoke detectors.

Deputy Chief Mason stated that Major Banet reported that he has inspected and all the necessary smoke detectors have been installed and are in working condition.

Mr. Trancill reported on 1106 E. Elm Street and the gravel driveway.

Ms. Badger reported that she has ticketed the owner for parking in the yard and is going to turn this over to Scott Wood.

Mr. Goldburg stated that there is also a problem with the roof blowing off and the gutters falling down.

Mr. Toran is going to refer this to the building commissioner.

Mr. Troncill stated that there are no smoke detectors in 1106 E. Elm and there is now a rodent problem since the utilities were shut off.

Mr. Goldberg reported that 708 Culbertson Avenue has windows busted, trash all over the place and it needs to be looked into.

Mr. Baylor reported that he is going to take a picture of 708 Culbertson and post it on his blog.

Mr. Brett Sofie, addressed the board and requested to have plats signed for Reflection Ridge.

The Board signed the plats.

Maurice King, reported that recently IN-AWC has been changing the meters and while they were doing this they broke his water line and they didn't notify him until this month and he has a plumber there repairing it for \$900. He has contacted everyone he knows to contact, but they are refusing to repair the damage. He didn't believe that this board can do anything but he wanted them to be aware of what is happening.

Tonda Wilhoit, came back to the board to address issues that they are having with parking in her neighborhood. She also brought pictures of abandoned houses that Mr. Roberts said he was going to condemn but they have still not been boarded up. She also had pictures of a house on Fairmont Drive that had a fire and people are still living in the house. She had several other

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pictures of abandoned houses that need to be condemned and asked how they could get something done to help the neighbors.

Officer Lewis reported that he has been working with her and he understands her frustration.

Mrs. Garry reported that the unsafe building fund was \$65,000 in the hole when we took office and there is no way to build it back up because there is only one man paying a lien.

Mr. Toran stated that he will be talking with Mr. Roberts to see where these homes stand and she should hear from him by the end of the week.

Chief Harl reported that he would like to clear up the issue that he did not appoint Ms. Badger as code enforcement officer he assigned her to address code enforcement issues.

Mrs. Anna Schmidt informed the board that the Redevelopment Commission used to set funds aside for unsafe buildings and she urged people to go to the next Redevelopment meeting to ask for funding to be put back into the unsafe building fund. She also reported that in the past there was always a list of houses to be torn down, but when Mr. Schmidt asked Mr. Roberts for a copy of the list he was informed that there was not a demolition list.

There was a lengthy discussion as to ways that this could be funded through Redevelopment and the city council.

Mr. Toran reported that Mr. Meyers needs a sign post.

Mr. LaDuke moved to approve, Mr. Hunter second, all voted in favor.

Tom Schellinburg, Jacobi, Toombs and Lanz, addressed the board regarding their concerns regarding the Mt. Tabor Road project needing to be started in the winter and the road will have to be closed and detoured. However, there may be days after the hills are cut down that they cannot work due to weather but there cannot be any through traffic during that time. He stated that they may receive a lot of complaints.

Mr. Toran asked him to be sure to notify the residents in the area in writing and to give plenty of advance notice to the public by posting signs.

BIDS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. LaDuke moved to approve the minutes of January 19 special meeting and the February 7 regular meeting, Mr. Hunter second, all voted in favor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to go before the board, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony B. Toran, President
Board of Public Works & Safety

Marcey Wisman, City Clerk
Civil City of New Albany, Indiana

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